Mr. Bosch's Role

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Juan Bosch is enough of a democrat to accept the results of last week's Dominican election gracefully. Any serious allegations of fraud or intimidation must of course be investigated. But the conclusion of the observers sent by the Organization of American States is that Joaquin Balaguer won a fair victory. The size of his majority rules out any real possibility that the outcome could now be changed.

Why Dominican voters chose Mr. Balaguer instead of Mr. Bosch, the last elected president who was ousted by a military coup in 1963, remains a complex question. To many who were fed up with violence since the revolution Bosch encouraged last year, no doubt Balaguer represented a symbol of stability while Bosch stayed in virtual seclusion. Some probably were fearful of the Communist-dominated organizations that backed Bosch against his wish. Perhaps others were influenced by the supposition that the United States favored Balaguer. Contrary to the canard spread in Europe, particularly in England and France, the Administration was fully prepared to support and work with Mr. Bosch if he had been elected.

Apart from his initial disappointment, one may